

## Description

As part of their quality assurance process, GP Gypsum, a Tacoma, Washington wallboard manufacturer, takes periodic samples of wallboard off of the line. The board is cut by an automatic knife, but it needs to be removed from the line, tested, and placed on a scrap recycling conveyor by hand. They used to take 48" x 48" size samples, which on thicker types of wallboard weigh over 40 pounds. They decided to change to 30" x 48" samples, since these are large enough for testing, but can reduce the weight by as much as 19 pounds per sample. The plant is currently trying to find a way to reduce the sample size to 24" x 48" to even further reduce the weight.



Smaller samples are easier to pull off the main conveyor...



...and easier to put back onto the recycle conveyor.

[e-mail an L&I ergonomist](mailto:ergonomics@LNI.wa.gov)  
([ergonomics@LNI.wa.gov](mailto:ergonomics@LNI.wa.gov))

